

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a counterpulsation system having at least one inflatable cuff that is adapted to be placed about a selected portion of a patient's body and a conduit coupled to said cuff, said method comprising the steps of:

[[A)] moving noncompressed air through the conduit toward the cuff;

~~(B) —selectively~~ inflating the cuff [[,]] using the noncompressed air from the conduit;

[[C)] moving noncompressed air through the conduit ~~and out of~~ away from the cuff; ~~and to selectively deflate the cuff.~~

deflating the cuff by moving the noncompressed air from the cuff into the conduit.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further including the step of ~~comprising selectively~~ coupling the conduit to atmosphere to ~~thereby~~ selectively allow noncompressed air from the conduit to exit into the atmosphere.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, ~~wherein the counterpulsation system includes~~ further including a plurality of cuffs and a plurality of conduits and further including the step of ~~steps (A) through (C) are performed cyclically and sequentially~~ inflating and deflating each of the cuffs. ~~with each cuff in a preselected order.~~

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of sequentially inflating and deflating each of the cuffs is further defined as sequentially inflating and deflating each of the cuffs in a preselected order.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, further including the step of cyclically inflating and deflating each of the cuffs.

23. (New) The method of claim 18, further including the step of cyclically inflating and deflating the cuff.

24. (New) The method of claim 18, further including an air moving device having a moving member and further including the step of moving the moving member in reciprocating strokes to move the noncompressed air through the conduit.

25. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the step of inflating the cuff is further defined as inflating the cuff during either of the reciprocating strokes of the moving member.

26. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the step of deflating the cuff is further defined as deflating the cuff during either of the reciprocating strokes of the moving member by creating a vacuum within the air moving device.

27. (New) The method of claim 24, further including an inflate conduit connected to the cuff and an inflate valve connected to the inflate conduit, and the step of inflating the cuff is further defined as opening the inflate valve to allow the noncompressed air to pass through the inflate conduit into the cuff during either of the reciprocating strokes of the moving member.

28. (New) The method of claim 24, further including a deflate conduit connected to the cuff and a deflate valve connected to the deflate conduit, and the step of deflating the cuff is further defined as opening the deflate valve to allow the noncompressed air to move from the cuff into the deflate conduit during either of the reciprocating strokes of the moving member.